E.411.e.84—8

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF THE Lord Major, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of *London* in Common-councell assembled;

TO THE

RIGHT HONORABLE

THE

LORDS and *COMMONS*

IN

Parliament Assembled.

Together with their *ANSWERS* to the said Petition.

Printed by RICHARD COTES Printer to the Honorable City of LONDON, 1648.

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE LORDS IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

The humble Petition of the Lord Major, Aldermen, and Commons in Common-councell assembled.

Humbly sheweth,

THat they had lately presented unto them an information from one *John Everard*, a true Copie whereof is hereunto annexed, whereby he doth give intimation of some Speeches that passed from certain per-

ſons at *Windſor*, of an intention to diſarm the City, and then to Plunder the ſame: And that divers reports to that effect have been brought unto us by Letters and otherwiſe from divers parts of this Kingdom, and from Forain parts: Which Reports, together with the preſent Drawing and Continuing of the Army ſo near the City; and the encreaſe of the number of Souldiers in the Tower, hath been, now is, and will be occaſion of great fears, and a great decay of Trade, and an enhauncing of the Prizes of Victuals within this City: The which fears are much encreaſed by the taking and keeping down of the Chaines within the ſame. And the Petitioners doe humbly conceive, That their danger is encreaſed, and their ſtrength much abated by the diſuniting of the command of the Forces of the City, and the Parts within the late Lines of Communication, and the weekly Bills of Mortality. For the removing of which Feares, and obtaining of thoſe things which may conduce to the ſafety of the Parliament and of this

this City; The Petitioners doe humbly pray,

That consideration may bee taken of the information given by the said *John Everard*; and that upon a further examination thereof, such course may be taken therein as your Honors shall think fit.

That the Chaines within the City of *London*, which were lately pulled down, may forthwith bee repaired and set up again: And that the Army may be speedily removed to a further distance from the City.

That by an Ordinance of Parliament, Major Generall *Skippon* (who was long since chosen, and still by Act of Common-councell is continued Major Generall over the Forces of the City) may be appointed to be Major Generall within the late Lines of Communication, and the weekly Bils of Mortality; By which meanes he may the better be enabled to reunite the Forces within the City, and the said late Lines of Communication, and weekly

Bills of Mortality, for the better defence of the City, and the Places adjacent: And likewise for the preservation of the Parliament, to whom the City do resolve to adhere according to their Solemn League and Covenant.

And your Petitioners shall pray, &c.

THE

The Information of *John Everard*, Concerning ſome Speeches that paſſed from certain perſons at Windſor, of an intention to Diſarm the City of *London*, and then to Plunder the ſame.

I *John Everard* maketh Oath, That he having ſome occaſion of buſineſſe at *Windſor* upon Thurſday the 20 of *April*, 1648. as he did lye in Bed, did heare ſome Gentlemen diſcourſe in the next Chamber, the number of whom he cannot tel, but by their diſcourſe they could not be leſſe then three or four; And that he doth beleeve they were all Officers of the Army under the command of his Excellency the Lord *Fairfax*; one of them was Quartermaſter-generall *Gravener* as he ſuppoſeth; another, one Colonell *Ewer*, or ſome ſuch name: And after ſome merry diſcourſe, they began to be ſerious, and propounded what they thought fit to bee done in reference to the preſent exigencies of the Kingdome, upon which ſubject they diſcourſed an houre or more: They made no doubt of the comming in of the *Scots*; and with the ſame confidence beleeved that the City of *London* would joyne with the *Scots*; For the preventing

ting of which, they could find no way but to Disarm the City both Friend and Foe: And afterwards, they said, they would intimate that those who were the Friends of the Army, should come forth into the Fields, and there they should be armed: And that they should have the power of the City of *London* put into their hands, to keep the rest of the Citizens in awe: And that they should be maintained at the Charge of the City, so long as it should bee thought fit to continue them. And because that Money is the sinews of Warre, having which, they doubted not but to procure Men enow, if there were occasion to use them: And therefore for the present advancement of the same, if need were, (this City being Disarmed) they would make them advance a Million of Money, or else plunder them: And the Party that spake this, said, Hee had acquainted Commissary-generall *Ireton* with it. All which, or to the like effect, was spoken in this Deponents hearing.

Copia vera.

John Everard.

23. Aprilis, 1648.
Jur. coram

Jo. Warner Major.

Die Jovis, 27. April. 1648.

MAſter Sheriffs, and Gentlemen of the Common-councell of the City of *London*; The Lords have commanded me to return thanks to the Lord Major, Aldermen, and Common-councell of the City of *London* for the good affections that they have expreſſed in this their Petition, aſſerting the reſolutions of the City to adhere to the Parliament according to their ſolemn League and Covenant.

They likewiſe have commanded me to aſſure you, That it hath ever been a principall part of their care to prevent any danger or inconveniency that might threaten the diſturbance of the quiet of the City of *London*, or tend to the decay of the Trade thereof, though to their great grief, theſe late troubles have much hindred the ſucceſſe of their endevors therein; which care they are fully reſolved ſtill to continue to the utmoſt of their power. And they aſſure you, That it never entred into their thoughts to have the city of *London* to be diſarmed; and they hope there can be no ſuch intentions in any others, who wiſh well to the ſafety of the Parliament.

As to the Report which hath been brought unto you by one *Iohn Everard*, they will put it into a further Examination, that they may be ſatisfied of the truth or falſhood of it: and except there be further proof of it, they hope ſuch a report ſhall not render the Army to be ſuſpected

pected of any such design, considering the many former, and late experiences that the Parliament and City have had of the fidelity and good services of the Army.

As to the particular of setting up the Chaines within the City, they doe fully leave it to the Lord Major, Aldermen, and Common-councell, to doe therein as they shall think fit.

To the last particular concerning Major Generall *Skippon*, he being a Member of the House of Commons, the Lords can resolve nothing therein, without a joyne concurrence of that House; but they will take it further into their consideration.

Joh. Brown, Cler. Parliamentorum.

Die Jovis, 27 Aprilis, 1648.

THe Houſe being informed that divers Aldermen and Citizens were at the doore, the were called in, and Alderman *Bide* one of the Sh riffes of the City of *London*, after ſome ſhort preamble, acquainted the Houſe that he was commanded by the Lord Major, Aldermen, and Commons in Common-councel aſſembled, the repreſentative Body of the City of *London*, to preſent a Petition to the Houſe: The Petitioners being withdrawn, the Petition was read, and an information annexed of one *John Everard* taken upon oath before the Lord Major, 23. of *Aprill*, 1648. The Petition was intituled, The Humble Petition of the Lord Major, Aldermen and Commons in Common-Councell aſſembled.

Ordered upon the queſtion by the Commons in Parliament aſſembled, That this Houſe doth approve of the deſires of the City, concerning Major Generall *Skippon*.

Reſolved, &c.

That the deſire of the Petitioners concerning the Chaines be granted, and that the Committee of the *Militia* do ſee it done.

Sir *Harbottle Grimſton*
Major Gen. *Skippon*
Mr. *Knightley*
Sir *John Evelyn*
Mr. *Bond*
Mr. *Doddridge*
Sir *Henry Mildmay*
Mr. *John Corbet*
Colonell *Harvey*
Sir *Robert Harley*
Mr. *Prideaux*
Mr. *Miles Corbet*
Mr. *John Aſh*
Colonell *Ven*
Mr. *Swynfen*.
Mr. *Boyſe*
Alderman *Pennington*
Mr. *Blackiſton*
Mr. *Vaſſall*
Sir *Tho. Soame*
Alderman *Atkin*
Sir *Gregory Norton*.
Mr. *Erle*
Mr. *Reynolds*
Mr. *Long*
Sir *Martin Lumley*
Mr. *Grove*
Mr. *Scawen*
Mr. *Dove*
Sir *Robert Pye*
Mr. *Bulkley*
Major Generall *Browne*.
Commiſſary *Ireton*.
Colonell *Purie*
Mr. *Say*.

THE

This Committee or any five of them are appointed to examine the Information given in by Mr. *John Everard*, mentioned in this City Petition, The information given in by Mr. *Walker* a Member of this House, and that he doe name unto the Committee this Reporter of it to him; and all other informations, Forrain or other, that concern the same businesse; and have power to send for parties, Witnesses, Papers, Records, and they are to meet upon it to morrow at two *p. meridiem.* in the Court of Wards, and the care of this businesse is more particularly referred to Alderman *Pennington* and Mr. *Doddridge.*

Resolved, &c.

That the thankes of this House be returned to the Citizens for their good affections expresst in their Petition.

Mr. Speaker is appointed to acquaint the Citizens, That the drawing of part of the Army so neere the City was occasioned by orders given out in the time of the late Tumult; That the House will take that businesse into serious consideration, and doe that therein which may be for the good and safety of the Parliament and City so farre as thereby they may receive satisfaction.

The Sheriffes, Aldermen and other Citizens were again called in, and Mr. Speaker by the command of the House, acquainted them with the Resolutions and Proceedings upon the Petition, and did give them the thanks of this House for their very good affections expresst in the Petition to the Parliament.

H. Elsynge Cler. Parl. D. Com

FINIS.